

Application No. 10/697,574
Filed: October 30, 2003
TC Art Unit: 2652
Confirmation No.: 8327

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Tanaka et al. (US Pat. No. 5,684,775). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

Independent amended claim 1 recites, among other things, that the earth plate is attached directly to the earth plate attaching portion and the bezel is attached directly to the bezel attaching portion. (For support, see, for example, original claim 6; Fig. 3; page 13, line 29, to page 14, line 17.) Tanaka does not disclose, teach, or suggest this feature of the present invention. In Tanaka, the earth plate (the sheet-metal member 51) is affixed to the back surface of the bezel 39. (See, for example, col. 7, lines 29-37.) Thus, claim 1 and the claims dependent therefrom are believed to be patentable over Tanaka.

Dependent claim 7 recites that when the bezel is removed from the disk tray, the earth plate fixed to the disk tray so as to cover at least a part of the front end face of the disk tray is exposed to the front end of the disk tray. In contrast, in Tanaka, since the earth plate is fixed not to the disk tray but to the bezel, when the bezel is removed from the disk tray, the earth plate is also simultaneously removed from the disk tray. Thus, claim 7 is believed to be patentable over Tanaka for this reason as well.

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With respect to dependent claim 8, the inner bezel is attached directly to the disk tray body, and when the bezel is removed from the disk tray body, the inner bezel is attached to the front end of the disk tray body. On the other hand, in Tanaka, rubber sheet 60 is attached to the back surface of the bezel, that is the rubber sheet 60 is attached to the disk tray body through the bezel, and when the bezel is removed from the disk tray body, the rubber sheet is also simultaneously removed from the disk tray body. Accordingly, claim 8 is believed to be patentable over Tanaka for this reason as well.

With respect to claim 17, the earth plate is set to the disk tray. In Tanaka, since the earth plate is set, not to the disk tray, but to the bezel, for manufacturing a disk drive, the earth plate is set to the bezel in the first step, and then the bezel integrated with the earth plate is set to the disk tray. Thus, claim 17 is believed to be patentable over Tanaka.

Claims 11-16 have been canceled. Accordingly, all claims are believed to be patentable over Tanaka.

The title has been amended as required by the Examiner. Accordingly, the objection to the title is believed to be overcome.

Claim 10 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claim 10 has been amended to recite "the bezel," that is, the bezel of claim 1. Accordingly, this rejection has been overcome.

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The specification has been amended to delete references to the claim numbers in the Summary, as these claims numbers are no longer consistent with the claims as amended. Obvious clerical errors in the specification have been corrected.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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BEH/dkh/326731